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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. **(Currently Amended)** A novel isolated nucleic acid molecule ~~in isolated form~~ wherein said nucleic acid molecule ~~comprises~~ comprising a novel DEC-205 intergenic splice variant or a derivative, homologue or analogue thereof.

2. **(Currently Amended)** The novel nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1 wherein said ~~nucleic acid molecule comprises~~ intergenic splice variant is a DEC-205/DCL-1 intergenic splice variant or a derivative, homologue or analogue thereof.

3. **(Original)** The nucleic acid molecule according to claim 2 comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding or a nucleotide sequence complementary to a nucleotide sequence encoding an amino acid sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 21 or a derivative, homologue or mimetic thereof or having at least about 45% or greater similarity to at least 30 contiguous amino acids in SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 21 or a derivative, homologue or analogue of said nucleic acid molecule.

4. **(Original)** The nucleic acid molecule according to claim 2 in isolated form comprising a nucleotide sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1 or SEQ ID NO: 20 capable of hybridising to the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1 or SEQ ID NO: 20 under low stringency conditions at 42°C or a derivative, homologue or analogue of said nucleic acid molecule.

5. **(Original)** The nucleic acid molecule of claim 4 wherein said nucleic acid molecule is a cDNA molecule.

6. **(Currently Amended)** The nucleic acid molecule according to claim 4 ~~or 5~~ which encodes an amino acid sequence corresponding to an amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 21 or a sequence having at least about 45% similarity to at least 30 contiguous amino acids in SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 21 or a derivative, homologue or analogue of said nucleic acid molecule.

7. **(Original)** The nucleic acid molecule according to claim 6 comprising a sequence of nucleotides substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1 or SEQ ID NO: 20.

8. **(Original)** The nucleic acid molecule according to claim 2 comprising a nucleotide

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sequence encoding or a nucleotide sequence complementary to a nucleotide sequence encoding an amino acid sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 5 or a derivative, homologue or mimetic thereof or having at least about 45% or greater similarity to at least 30 contiguous amino acids in SEQ ID NO: 5 or a derivative, homologue or analogue of said nucleic acid molecule.

9. **(Original)** The novel nucleic acid molecule according to claim 2 comprising a nucleotide sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 4 or a nucleotide sequence capable of hybridising to the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 4 under low stringency conditions at 42°C or a derivative, homologue or analogue of said nucleic acid molecule.

10. **(Original)** The nucleic acid molecule according to claim 9 wherein said nucleic acid molecule is a cDNA molecule.

11. **(Currently Amended)** The nucleic acid molecule according to claim 9 ~~or 11~~ which encodes an amino acid sequence corresponding to an amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 5 or a sequence having at least 45% similarity to at least 30 contiguous amino acids in SEQ ID NO: 5 or a derivative, homologue or analogue of said nucleic acid molecule.

12. **(Original)** The novel nucleic acid molecule according to claim 2 comprising a nucleotide sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 32 or a nucleotide sequence capable of hybridising to the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 32 under low stringency conditions at 42°C or a derivative, homologue or analogue of said nucleic acid molecule.

13. **(Original)** The nucleic acid molecule according to claim 12 wherein said nucleic acid molecule is a genomic molecule.

14. **(Currently Amended)** The nucleic acid molecule according to claim 12 ~~or 13~~ which encodes an amino acid sequence corresponding to an amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 5 or a sequence having at least about 45% similarity to at least 30 contiguous amino acids in SEQ ID NO: 5 or a derivative, homologue or analogue of said nucleic acid molecule.

15. **(Original)** The nucleic acid molecule according to claim 2 comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding or a nucleotide sequence complementary to a nucleotide sequence encoding an amino acid sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 8 or a derivative, homologue or mimetic thereof or having at least about 45% or greater similarity to at least 30 contiguous amino acids in SEQ ID NO: 8 or a derivative, homologue or analogue of said nucleic acid molecule.

16. **(Original)** The nucleic acid molecule according to claim 2 comprising a nucleotide

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sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 7 or a nucleotide sequence capable of hybridising to the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 7 under low stringency conditions at 42°C or a derivative, homologue or analogue of said nucleic acid molecule.

17. **(Original)** The nucleic acid molecule according to claim 16 wherein said nucleic acid molecule is a cDNA molecule.

18. **(Currently Amended)** The nucleic acid molecule according to claim 16 ~~or 17~~ which encodes an amino acid sequence corresponding to an amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 8 or a sequence having at least about 45% similarity to at least 30 contiguous amino acids in SEQ ID NO: 8 or a derivative, homologue or analogue of said nucleic acid molecule.

19. **(Original)** The nucleic acid molecule according to claim 2 comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding or a nucleic acid molecule sequence complementary to a nucleotide sequence encoding an amino acid sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 11 or a derivative, homologue or mimetic thereof or having at least about 45% or greater similarity to at least 30 contiguous amino acids in SEQ ID NO: 11 or a derivative, homologue or analogue of said nucleic acid molecule.

20. **(Original)** The novel nucleic acid molecule according to claim 2 comprising a nucleotide sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 10 or a nucleotide sequence capable of hybridising to the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 10 under low stringency conditions at 42°C or a derivative, homologue or analogue of said nucleic acid molecule.

21. **(Original)** The nucleic acid molecule according to claim 20 wherein said nucleic acid molecule is a cDNA molecule.

22. **(Currently Amended)** The nucleic acid molecule according to claim 20 ~~or 21~~ which encodes an amino acid sequence corresponding to an amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 11 or a sequence having at least about 45% similarity to at least 30 contiguous amino acids in SEQ ID NO: 11 or a derivative, homologue or analogue of said nucleic acid molecule.

23. **(Original)** The nucleic acid molecule according to claim 3 wherein said complementary nucleotide sequence is substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 3 or 22 or capable of hybridising to the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 3 or 22 under low stringency conditions at 42°C or a derivative, homologue or analogue of said nucleic acid molecule.

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24. **(Original)** The nucleic acid molecule according to claim 8 wherein said complementary nucleotide sequence is substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 6 or capable of hybridising to the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 6 under low stringency conditions at 42°C or a derivative, homologue or analogue of said nucleic acid molecule.

25. **(Original)** The novel nucleic acid molecule according to claim 15 comprising a nucleotide sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 9 or a nucleotide sequence capable of hybridising to the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 9 under low stringency conditions at 42°C or a derivative, homologue or analogue of said nucleic acid molecule.

26. **(Original)** The novel nucleic acid molecule according to claim 19 comprising a nucleotide sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 12 or a nucleotide sequence capable of hybridising to the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 12 under low stringency conditions at 42°C or a derivative, homologue or analogue of said nucleic acid molecule.

27. **(Original)** The novel nucleic acid molecule according to claim 2 comprising a nucleotide sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 13 or a nucleotide sequence capable of hybridising to the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 13 under low stringency conditions at 42°C or a derivative, homologue or analogue of said nucleic acid molecule.

28. **(Original)** The nucleic acid molecule according to claim 27 wherein said nucleic acid molecule is a cDNA molecule.

29. **(Currently Amended)** An isolated protein ~~wherein said protein is~~ comprising a DEC-205 intergenic splice variant or a derivative, homologue, analogue, chemical equivalent or mimetic thereof of said protein.

30. **(Original)** An isolated protein according to claim 29 wherein said intergenic splice variant is DEC-205/DCL-1 intergenic splice variant or a derivative,
homologue, analogue, chemical equivalent or mimetic thereof of said protein.

31. **(Original)** The protein according to claim 30 having an amino acid sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 21 or a sequence having at least about 45% similarity to at least 30 contiguous amino acids in SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 21 or a derivative, homologue, analogue, chemical equivalent or mimetic of said protein.

32. **(Original)** The protein according to claim 30 encoded by a nucleotide sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1 or SEQ ID NO: 20 or capable of hybridising to the

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sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1 or SEQ ID NO: 20 under low stringency conditions at 42°C or a derivative, homologue, analogue, chemical equivalent or mimetic of said protein.

33. **(Original)** The protein according to claim 32 wherein said nucleotide sequence encodes an amino acid sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 21 having at least about 45% similarity to at least 30 contiguous amino acids in SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 21 or a derivative, homologue, analogue, chemical equivalent or mimetic of said protein.

34. **(Original)** The protein according to claim 30 having an amino acid sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 8, or SEQ ID NO: 11 or a sequence having at least about 45% similarity to at least 30 contiguous amino acids in SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 8, or SEQ ID NO: 11, respectively, or a derivative, homologue, analogue, chemical equivalent or mimetic of said protein.

35. **(Original)** The protein according to claim 30 encoded by a nucleotide sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NOs: 4, 7 or 10 or capable of hybridising to the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NOs: 4, 7 or 10 under low stringency conditions at 42°C or a derivative, homologue, analogue, chemical equivalent or mimetic of said protein.

36. **(Original)** The protein according to claim 35 wherein said nucleotide sequence encodes an amino acid sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NOs: 5, 8 or 11 or an amino acid sequence having at least about 45% similarity to at least 30 contiguous amino acids in SEQ ID NOs: 5, 8 or 11 or a derivative, homologue, analogue, chemical equivalent or mimetic of said protein.

37. **(Currently Amended)** The protein according to ~~any one of claims 29 to 36~~ claim 29 in a homodimeric form.

38. **(Currently Amended)** The protein according to ~~any one of claims 29 to 36~~ claim 29 in a heterodimeric form.

39. **(Original)** A method of modulating DEC-205 SV expression or DEC-205 SV functional activity in a mammal, said method comprising administering to said mammal an agent for a time and under conditions sufficient to up- regulate, down- regulate or otherwise modulate expression of DEC-205 SV or functioning of DEC-205 SV.

40. **(Original)** A method for modulating DCL-1 expression or DCL-1 functional activity

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in a mammal, said method comprising administering to said mammal an agent for a time and under conditions sufficient to up-regulate, down-regulate or otherwise modulate said expression or functioning.

41. **(Currently Amended)** A method for regulating cellular activity in a subject said method comprising administering to said subject an effective amount of an agent for a time and under conditions sufficient to modulate DEC-205 SV expression ~~of~~ or DEC-205 SV functional activity.

42. **(Original)** A method of regulating cellular activity in a subject said method comprising administering to said subject an effective amount of an agent for a time and conditions sufficient to modulate DCL-1 expression or DCL-1 functional activity.

43. **(Original)** The method according to ~~any one of claims 41 or 42~~ claim 41, wherein said cellular activity is selected from the group consisting of: cellular endocytosis, late endosome targetting, intracellular signalling, Hodgkin and Reed-Sternberg cell functioning ~~or~~ and antigen presenting cell antigen uptake.

44. **(Original)** A method for the treatment and/or prophylaxis of a condition characterized by aberrant, unwanted or otherwise inappropriate functioning of DEC-205 SV or DCL-1 in a subject, said method comprising administering to said subject an effective amount of an agent as hereinbefore defined for a time and under conditions sufficient to modulate the expression of DEC-205 SV or DCL-1 and/or functioning of DEC-205 SV or DCL-1.

45. **(Original)** A method for the treatment of Hodgkin's lymphoma in a mammal, said method comprising administering to said mammal an effective amount of a cytolytic and/or cytotoxic agent which agent interacts or otherwise associates with DEC-205 SV, for a time and under conditions sufficient for said agent to lyse, apoptose or otherwise kill Hodgkin and Reed-Sternberg cells.

46. – 49. **(Cancelled)**

50. **(Currently Amended)** A pharmaceutical composition comprising at least one of DEC-205 SV, DCL-1, DEC-205 SV, DCL-1 or an agent capable of modulating DEC-205 SV or DCL-1 expression or DEC-205 SV or DCL-1 activity or a derivative, homologue, analogue, chemical equivalent or mimetic thereof together with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers and/or diluents.

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51. **(Currently Amended)** An isolated antibody directed to the protein according to claim 29 ~~any one of claims 29-38~~.

52. **(Currently Amended)** An isolated antibody directed to the nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1-28~~.

53. **(Currently Amended)** The antibody according to claim 51 ~~or 52~~ wherein said antibody is a monoclonal antibody.

54. **(Currently Amended)** The antibody according to claim 51 ~~or 52~~ wherein said antibody is a polyclonal antibody.

55. **(Original)** A method of diagnosing or monitoring a mammalian disease condition, which disease condition is characterised by DEC-205 SV and/or DCL-1 expression, said method comprising screening for at least one of DEC-205 SV or DCL- 1 or DEC-205 SV or DCL-1 in a biological sample isolated from said mammal.

56. **(Currently Amended)** A method for detecting an agent capable of modulating the function of DEC-205 SV or DCL-1 or its functional equivalent or derivative thereof said method comprising contacting a cell or extract thereof ~~containing~~ comprising said DEC-205 SV or DCL-1 or its functional equivalent or derivative with a putative agent and detecting an altered expression phenotype associated with said DEC-205 SV or DCL-1 or its functional equivalent or derivative.